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RIG & TYPIST INITIALS

EG&G ROCKY FLATS, INC. ROCKY FLATS PLANT, P.O. BOX 464, GOLDEN, COLORAD (80462-0464-1303) 966-7000

August 17, 1994



94-RF-08393

D. W. Sargent Director Standards, Performance and Assurance DOE, RFFO

INDEPENDENT SAFETY REVIEW HIGHLIGHTS, EDITION 33 - WSG-169-94

Attached is Edition 33 of the Independent Safety Review Highlights which are a bi-weekly update of Rocky Flats Environmental Technology Site safety and environmental matters of interest for use by EG&G Rocky Flats, Inc., DOE, and the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board. The report is not intended to be all-inclusive and is generated using information from incoming and outgoing correspondence, the Cost Plus Award Fee reports, Operations Review Committee input, and other sources.

Comments on content and format are welcome and should be telephoned to M. E. Skow, Manager, Technical Support, Building T130H, X3680.

W. S. Glover

Director

Performance Assurance

TDF

Orig. and 1 ∞ - D. W. Sargent

Attachment:

As Stated

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K. Juroff

DOE, HQ, EM-64

R. Kasdorf

- DNFSB Staff

M. N. Silverman - DOE, RFFO

INDEPENDENT SAFETY REVIEW HIGHLIGHTS

Edition 33 - August 17, 1994

These bi-weekly highlights list ongoing and upcoming activities at the Rocky Flats Environmental Technology Site (RFETS) which have the potential for becoming safety or environmental issues. Not all applicable items of interest are presented, and topics will be repeated in future editions only when the status changes significantly.

CURRENT ISSUES/EVENTS

- 1. Working Draft of Consolidation Plan for Mixed Residues in Vaults and Gloveboxes -EG&G Rocky Flats, Inc. (EG&G) presented to DOE, RFFO the document entitled "Working Draft 1 of Identification of Storage Areas to be Permitted for Mixed Residues in Gloveboxes and Vaults." Reference 94-RF-07643
- 2. <u>Supercompactor and Repackaging Facility (SARF) Strategic Plan</u> EG&G notified DOE, RFFO that the goal of the SARF is to "supercompact" the total plant population of approximately 5,185 transuranic (TRU) and TRU mixed waste containers by September 1, 2002. The current available population of about 200 drums is scheduled to be compacted by September 30, 1994. Reference 94-RF-08128
- 3. Approval to Proceed with 207-C Pond Sludge Removal DOE, RFFO notified EG&G of approval to commence the 207-C Pond Sludge Removal operation: "EG&G has successfully demonstrated through the Special Assessment Process the readiness of the operation to proceed."

 Reference 03026-RF-94
- 4. Unsolicited Proposal for Deactivation. Decontamination, and Decommissioning of Building 886 Two unsolicited proposals were received by DOE, RFFO presenting several options for removing the highly enriched uranium (HEU), in the form of uranyl nitrate solution, from building 886. Both proposals have significant technical merit. One proposal allows for storage and management of the HEU at a naval facility as an alternative to direct shipment to the Oak Ridge Y-12 plant. The other proposal allows for blending the material at Rocky Flats, thereby eliminating the need for shipment via Safe-Secure Transporter (thus reducing protection by DOE). DOE, RFFO therefore directed EG&G to perform a thorough technical review of both proposals, and also provide a written proposal and presentation to DOE on how EG&G would manage an accelerated effort to deactivate, decontaminate, and decommission Building 886. Reference 2980-RF-94
- 5. Level 1 Environmental Evaluation Audit Report DOE, RFFO completed an audit of the Environmental Evaluations for the Non-Industrial Operable Units (OUs) and requested EG&G to conduct an assessment of Environmental Evaluation Quality Assurance records and develop and submit a Corrective Action plan. Reference 02862-RF-94

- 6. Reduction of Water Sampling Frequency for OU 1 Eleven wells are utilized to monitor the performance of the French Drain at OU 1 (881 Hillside). Each well provides for 69 to 75 water level measurements as part of well monitoring. Data revealed that nine of the eleven wells are perennially dry, and only three wells consistently contain a measurable quantity of water. Therefore, DOE, RFFO notified the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Colorado Department of Health (CDH) that the frequency of water level measurements in wells 10592, 10692, and 10792 will change from weekly to quarterly; wells 10092, 10192, 10292, 10392, 10492, 10892, 10992, and 11092 will not be monitored. Reference 02843-RF-94
- 7. Appreciation of EG&G Employee Loaned to EM-60 DOE, HQ notified EG&G of their appreciation of Mr. L. R. Ferris. During his assignment with EM-60, Mr. Ferris used his invaluable field insight and experience to assist the Office of Facility Transition and Management in a number of critical areas including assuring compliance with legislative, regulatory, and environmental program requirements. DOE, HQ also stated "his organizational and interpersonal skills were a perfect fit for our needs and will surely be missed." Reference 02985-RF-94
- 8. Release Avoidance Initiative EG&G notified DOE, RFFO that the following three parallel actions involving tank management, material transfers, and refrigeration management have been initiated to avoid future release events. First, analyze historic releases during FY94 to identify what type of incident occurred. Second, conduct inventory of tank system vulnerabilities to prioritize corrective actions. Third, prepare lists of tank systems that are candidates for expedited RCRA closure that could be emptied. Completion of these actions is anticipated by August 15, 1994. Reference 94-RF-08018
- 9. High Efficiency Particulate Air (HEPA) Filter Testing Unreviewed Safety Question Determination (USQD) DOE, RFFO transmitted to EG&G the results of the USQ related to periodic testing of HEPA filters at the RFETS. The existing Operational Safety Requirements require periodic testing of only the final stage of glovebox and room exhaust ventilation HEPA filters (except for Buildings 559 and 707). A USQD was performed and the following points were delineated: (1) testing less than all filter stages in Building 371 results in a USQ, due to increased accident consequences; (2) testing only one filter stage in Building 774 results in a USQ, but the increase in accident consequences is not significant; (3) testing only one filter stage in Building 771 results in a USQ; (4) testing only one filter stage in Buildings 374, 776/777, 779, and 991 does not result in a USQ. Corrective actions delineated respectively were: (1) test two stages of glovebox and room ventilation systems and obtain Program Secretarial Officer's approval for increases consequences, (2) DOE, RFFO shall approve the revised accident consequences for Building 774, and (3) test two stages of glovebox and room ventilation filters, thereby eliminating the USQ status. Reference 03061-RF-94
- Canister Impact on Building 371 Vault Upgrades DOE, RFFO notified EG&G that questions have been raised about the evaluation of a new canister design which does not meet current Design Criteria. Reference 03066-RF-94

- 11. Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Contingency Plan Implementation Report Number 94-008 DOE, RFFO submitted to the CDH the subject report which outlines the events and responses associated with a release of approximately 1,800 gallons of process waste water (hazardous waste D006) from primary containment to secondary containment in Building 460. The RCRA Contingency Plan was implemented as a precautionary measure due to the possibility of a release of hazardous waste from the secondary containment system to the soil beneath the building (due to potential leak pathways in the Hypalon ™ liner). Reference 02860-RF-94
- 12. Chernobyl Nuclear Accident Support EG&G notified DOE, RFFO that a list of supplies has been tabulated which could be used to clean up sites in the Ukraine, contaminated by the Chernobyl nuclear accident. The supplies, originally purchased for approximately \$1.3 million, have been radiologically surveyed and found to be acceptable under current DOE criteria for unrestricted release. Some supplies do not meet current plant standards (e.g., half-face respirators) and other supplies do not fit the plant population (e.g., overalls). Reference 94-RF-08029
- 13. <u>Tank Inventory Concerns</u> DOE, RFFO directed EG&G to investigate the data available on tank inventories, including hold-up, and assure all that all sources (i. e., Tank File Database, building inventories, etc.) are accurate and consistent. A response from this investigation is due by September 1, 1994. Reference 03074-RF-94

14. DOE. HQ Visits -

 August 1-12, 1994, Office of Environmental Management personnel were on plantsite for verification of the Site Safeguards and Security Plan.

15. DNFSB Visits -

No activities to report for this Edition.

PLANNED PROJECTS/EVENTS

1. August 22-26, 1994, personnel from the Office of Nuclear Safety will be on plantsite to review the Radcon program.